#### Message

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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- June 15, 2016





June 15, 2016

Latest News

# House Panel Investigating Possible EPA Staff Split On Glyphosate Risk

The House panel investigating EPA's oversight of glyphosate is seeking to determine whether agency scientists are split over whether the nation's most commonly-used herbicide is likely to cause human cancers, potentially complicating the agency's ongoing cancer analysis of the substance, according to a source with the panel.

### Advocates Reiterate Calls For Glyphosate Ban, Faulting EPA Risk Reviews

Health advocacy groups are reiterating calls for EPA to ban the world's most commonly-used herbicide glyphosate, arguing heavy use of the substance on genetically-modified (GM) crops is increasing rates of disease such as cancer, and that the agency's assessments fail to adequately account for health risks from the substance.

### GAO Pledges To Press EPA On CWA Jurisdiction Rule Campaign Response

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) is pledging to follow up with EPA on whether and when the agency plans to respond to a 2014 GAO finding that the agency violated federal law and lobbying restrictions as part of its social media campaign to promote its Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction rule.

## Judge Denies Stay Of Flint Tort Suits While Consolidation Motion Pending

A federal district court judge has denied a request from Flint, MI, residents to stay class action tort litigation over exposure to lead-contaminated drinking water while the court considers a motion to consolidate dozens of similar cases, finding the court should first determine whether it has jurisdiction over the cases.

## Senate FY17 EPA Bill Includes Policy Budget Cuts, Riders But Boosts SRFs

Senate Republicans are pushing a fiscal year 2017 spending bill for EPA that would cut the agency's existing budget of \$8.14 billion down to roughly \$8.1 billion with what Democrats say would be 10 percent cuts to major environmental policy areas and includes riders barring some rules, though the bill does propose boosting water infrastructure funding.

## EPA Scientists Set Goals For New EDSP Computational Toxicity Assays

EPA scientists have set a time line to find replacements for several animal toxicity assays intended to screen chemicals for the potential to disrupt the human endocrine system, focusing in the short-term on replacing androgen hormone receptor animal assays but also setting longer-term deadlines for steroidogenesis and thyroid assays.

## Parties Drop Petition For High Court Review Of Novel Radioactive Tort Ruling

Parties who had sought Supreme Court review of a novel ruling that could expose the nuclear industry to potentially extensive liability under state tort laws for radioactive releases into the environment have dropped their pursuit of high court review.

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#### **News Briefs**

#### Ryan's Policy Plan Seeks To Scrap EPA Climate Rules

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) is floating a policy blueprint for House Republicans that calls for scraping all EPA climate change rules developed under the Clean Air Act, along with a broader regulatory reform effort that would put new constraints on agencies seeking to issue new rules.

#### WGA Seeks 'Good Samaritan' Mine Cleanup Measures

The Western Governors'
Association (WGA) is calling on Congress to approve so-called "Good Samaritan" legislation that would promote cleanup of abandoned hardrock mines by lifting potential liability under federal environmental laws for any continuing discharges from the sites after cleanup.

### DOJ Cites Ruling To Boost Case On Agency Officials' Eligibility

The Department of Justice (DOJ) is citing a recent U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit ruling in a bid to boost its call for the Supreme Court to review a case on when acting agency officials can also be the pending nominee for the same position, saying the ruling highlights an "emerging consensus" among courts on when to take such cases.

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